

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 301328Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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DEPT PLEASE PASS AGRICULTURE; VIENNA FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OVIP, HU

SUBJ: HUNGARIAN VISIT OF UNDERSECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

CAMPBELL

1. SUMMARY: UNDERSECRETARY CAMPBELL COMPLETED SUCCESSFUL 3-DAY VISIT TO HUNGARY MAY 28. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH AGRICULTURE MINISTER DIMENY AND DEPUTY MINISTERS KAZERECZKI AND VANCSEA, HUNGARIANS RPEEATEDLY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH RAPID EXPANSION OF OUR RELATIONS IN AGRICULTURAL AREA AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS TREND WOULD CONTINUE. HUNGARIANS AGAIN RAISED QUESTION OF EXPANSION OF CCC CREDIT LIST TO INCLUDE SOYBEAN MEAL AND ALSO GENTLY BROUGHT UP MFN. ALSO EVINCED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN EXPANSION OF SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES IN AGRICULTURAL AREA. HUNGARIANS, SOMEWHAT UNCHARACTERISTICALLY, DID NOT SUGGEST POSSIBILITY OF FORMAL BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON AGRICULTURAL MATTERS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERHAPS INDICATING THAT GOH DOES NOT FEEL SUCH AGREEMENTS

NEEDED AT THIS STAGE TO FURTHER DEVELOP RELATIONS IN AGRICULTURAL SPHERE. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING UNDERSECRETARY CAMPBELL'S 3-DAY HUNGARIAN VISIT, HOSTS DELIGHTED IN SHOWING UNDERSECRETARY EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL HUNGARIAN-AMERICAN COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL FIELD. PROGRAM INCLUDED VISITS TO BABOLNA AND AGARD STATE FARMS AND HEADQUARTERS OF CORN PRODUCTION SYSTEM (CPS) WHERE UNDERSECRETARY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW OPERATIONS OF COOPERATION PROJECTS INVOLVING HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSN, CPS, AND SEE SAMPLE OF TRACTOR PRODUCED IN HUNGARY ON BASIS OF COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN STEIGER AND RABA-GYOR.

3. IN UNDERSECRETARY'S TALKS WITH AGRICULTURAL MINISTER DIMENY AND DEPUTY MINISTERS KAZERECZKI AND VANCSA, ALL THREE TOP OFFICIALS EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS AND INDICATED THAT FURTHER EXPANSION OF THESE RELATIONS WAS PLANNED IN FUTURE. SINGLED OUT FOR PARTICULAR PRAISE WERE CLOSED PRODUCTION METHODS FOR CORN, USING U.S. KNOW-HOW AND MACHINERY INTRODUCED INTO HUNGARY ON LARGE SCALE, AND COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSN UNDER WHICH HUNGARY CURRENTLY IMPORTING DAIRY CATTLE FOR BREEDING PURPOSES AT RATE OF ABOUT 5,000 HEAD PER YEAR. HUNGARIANS INDICATED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION WITH U.S. FIRMS IN FOOD PROCESSING AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY AREAS. DELEGATION HEADED BY VANCSA TO TRAVEL TO U.S. IN LATE SEPT WITH PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF SOUNDING OUT LEADING U.S. COMPANIES ON THESE THEMES.

4. AS EXPECTED, HUNGARIANS MADE PITCH TO OBTAIN CCC CREDITS FOR SOYBEAN MEAL PURCHASED FROM U.S., STATING THAT SUCH CREDITS WOULD NEUTRALIZE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF RETALIATORY TARIFF GOH IMPOSES ON ALL AMERICAN IMPORTS DUE TO LACK OF MFN. IN REPLY UNDERSECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT CCC CREDITS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBILITY AS LONG AS SOYBEANS IN SHORT SUPPLY BUT THAT A BUMPER SOYBEAN CROP WOULD INCREASE POSSIBILITY THAT SOYBEANS MIGHT BE ADDED TO LIST. QUESTION OF MFN ITSELF RAISED IN LOW-KEY MANNER WITH HUNGARIANS POINTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OUT THAT LEVELS OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE COULD BE MUCH HIGHER IF MFN ISSUE FAVORABLY RESOLVED.

5. HUNGARIAN SIDE INDICATED STRONG INTEREST IN EXPANDING SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH U.S. INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES IN FIELD OF AGRICULTURE. ANOTHER PURPOSE OF UPCOMING VANCSA VISIT WILL BE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANSION SUCH EXCHANGES AS VANCSA DEPUTY MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR AGRICULTURE.

CULTURAL RESEARCH. HUNGARIANS DID NOT SPECIFICALLY EXPRESS DESIRE CONCLUSION OF SPECIAL AGREEMENT FOR EXCHANGES OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION OR DATA.

6. COMMENT: HUNGARIANS VERY MUCH PLEASED WITH VISIT UNDERSECRETARY CAMPBELL. HUNGARIANS WARMED QUICKLY TO UNDERSECRETARY'S DIRECT, PRACTICALLY-ORIENTED APPROACH, SOUTHERN GRACIOUSNESS AND WIT WHICH MADE LARGE CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SUCCESS OF VISIT. ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION GIVEN TO UNDERSECRETARY CAMPBELL AND PRAISE OF PAST U.S.-HUNGARIAN PROJECTS IN AGRICULTURAL FIELD INDICAE THAT SUCH COOPERATION WILL BE EXPANDED IN FUTURE--AGAIN DEMONSTRATES CONSIDERABLE SATISFACTION WITH STATE OF OUR RELATIONS IN AGRICULTURAL FIELD. IT APPEARS THAT AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING HUNGARIANS DO NOT WISH TO ENCUMBER THESE RELATIONS WITH FORMAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS BUT WOULD PREFER TO ALLOW THEM TO CONTINUE ALONG SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT PATTERN OF LAST FEW YEARS. SENIOR HUNGARIANS AGAIN STRONGLY AND REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SECRETARY BUTZ WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT HUNGARY IN NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.

7. DURING VISIT MINISTER DIMENY CONDUCTED HIMSELF AS MAN WHO WILL SOON BE ON WAY OUT. KAZERECZKI CLEARLY DOMINATED VISIT ON HUNGARIAN SIDE AND APPEARS THAT HIS STAR IS TILL ON RISE. KAZERECZKI NOTED TO US THAT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HE IS CHARGED WITH HUNGARY'S AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS WITH USSR AND U.S. AND EXPRESSED HOPE HE WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT U.S. IN 1976. VANCSEA, FORMER MANAGER OF AGARD STATE FARM, IMPRESSED US AS COMPETENT AND PLEASANT MAN. VANCSEA HAS ACCEPTED EMBASSY OFFER TO ASSIST HIM WITH HIS UPCOMING U.S. VISIT; AND WE SHALL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DETAILS CONCERNING HIS TRAVEL AS SOON AS THEY ARE RECEIVED FROM MINISTRY.

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